

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in light of the amendments and remarks herein.

Upon entry of this amendment, claims 1-17 will be pending. By this amendment, claims 1 and 4 have been amended, and claims 9-17 have been added. No new matter has been added.

§102 Rejection of Claims 1-8

In Section 1 of the Office Action, the Examiner has rejected claims 1-8 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Florin *et al.* (U.S. Patent 5,583,560; hereinafter referred to as “Florin”).

In the Background section of the Specification, it was indicated, “[c]onventionally, in a set-top box and the like ..., contents ... are displayed, for example, on a multi-screen in order that a desired channel can be selected easily from a large number of channels. ... it is also considered that a desired program is watched and heard by time shift. If a user watches and hears the program thus recorded, there may be a case that the user desires to watch and hear only a specific scene. In this case, it is considered that the scene desired by the user can be selectively provided if a head of each scene is displayed as a still image and a corresponding scene is reproduced by selection made by the user. Accordingly, the operability can be improved. However, if those still images are displayed and disposed simply, the before-after relationship of the still images cannot be grasped easily, so the operability is deteriorated inversely.” *Background of the Specification, page 1, line 15 through page 2, line 9.*

To address the above-described shortcomings of the conventional information providing apparatuses and methods, embodiments of the present invention provides “a video signal

processing apparatus and a video signal processing method by which a large number of images, which are consecutive in time series can be displayed such that a before-after relationship between the images can be easily understood.” *Specification, page 2, lines 13-16.*

In particular, the structure of information providing apparatus claim 1, as presented herein, provides:

“means for obtaining first index information from a first information source of the plurality of information sources, wherein the ***first index information*** includes representative information ***indicating scene changes*** in the information data provided through the first information source;

means for obtaining second index information from a second information source of the plurality of information sources, wherein the ***second index information*** includes representative information ***indicating scene changes*** in the information data provided through the second information source;

means for displaying a categorized menu on the screen, based on the obtained first and second index information; and

means for obtaining necessary information from the first or second information source, in response to selection operation on the menu screen, and for displaying information based on the necessary information,

wherein the menu screen is arranged to display the information in a plurality of dimensions and levels such that a substantial portion of the necessary information can be seen and navigated on a minimum number of screens to enable relatively easy programming decisions and selections.”

Claim 1 (emphasis added)

Therefore, the structure of claim 1, as presented herein, includes means for obtaining first and second index information, where the first and second index information indicates scene changes in information data from the first and second information sources, respectively. The index information is used to provide temporal relationships among index images. In a particular implementation, as described in claims 11 and 15, these temporal relationships can be arranged in a spiral layout.

Florin, however, fails to teach or suggest providing means for obtaining first and second index information, where the first and second index information indicates scene changes in information data from the first and second information sources, respectively. Therefore, Florin fails to teach or suggest elements claimed in claim 1.

Claims 2, 3, and 7 depend from claim 1. Independent claim 4 is a method claim that closely parallels, and includes substantially similar limitations as, independent claim 1. Claims 5, 6, and 8 depend from claim 4. Therefore, based on the foregoing discussion regarding Florin with respect to claim 1, claims 2-8 should also be allowable over Florin.

Based on the foregoing discussion, it is submitted that claims 1-8 are not anticipated by the teachings of Florin. Accordingly, it is submitted that the Examiner's rejection of claims 1-8 based upon 35 U.S.C. §102(b) has been overcome by the present remarks and withdrawal thereof is respectfully requested.

Newly-added Claims 9-17

Claims 9-12 depend from claim 1, and claims 13-17 depend from claim 4. Therefore, based on the foregoing discussion regarding Florin with respect to claims 1 and 4, newly-added claims 9-17 should also be allowable over Florin.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, entry of this amendment, and the allowance of this application with claims 1-17 are respectfully solicited.

In regard to the claims amended herein and throughout the prosecution of this application, it is submitted that these claims, as originally presented, are patentably distinct over the prior art of record, and that these claims were in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112. Changes to these claims, as presented herein, are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§101, 102, 103 or 112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicant is entitled.


In the event that additional cooperation in this case may be helpful to complete its prosecution, the Examiner is cordially invited to contact Applicant's representative at the telephone number written below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any insufficient fees or credit any overpayment associated with the above-identified application to Deposit Account 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,

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